

REMARKS

1. Reconsideration in view of the amendments and remarks herein is respectfully requested.
2. Referring now to first Item 1 on page 2 of the Official Action, a new oath or declaration showing correct domestic priority for provisional applications 60/459,378 and 60/460,743 is submitted herewith.
3. In the specification, page 1, first paragraph after the title, the filing date for provisional application 60/460,743 that had been provided by earlier by means of a preliminary amendment was incorrect. The date is amended to the correct date of July 1, 2003.
4. Currently claims 1 to 8 are pending in the application. Claims 1, and 4 to 8 stand rejected. Claims 2 and 3 stand objected to.
5. Referring now to first Item 2 on page 2 of the Official Action, the Examiner's comment regarding the dependency of claims 7 and 8 is correct. Claims 7 and 8 have been amended to depend on claims 6 and 7 respectively.
6. Referring now to the claim rejections under 35 USC § 102(b): Claims 6, 7, and 8 stand rejected as being anticipated by Amirav et al (US 5,742,050), hereinafter referred to as Amirav.

At page 3, Section 2, lines 6-8 the Official Action states that Amirav sweeps vaporized analyte into an absorbent trap, and further that the filter in Amirav is equivalent to the absorbent trap in the present invention. Applicant wishes to point

out the differences. First, a filter is defined as "a device for separating solid particles, impurities, etc. from a liquid or gas by passing it through a porous substance". Please refer to the attached copy of relevant page 522 from Webster's New World Dictionary of the American Language, Second College Edition, David b. Guralnik, Editor. Simon and Schuster, 1984. This is typically a physical process where particles not able to pass through the pores are captured. Amirav as discussed in more detail below describes and uses a filter that captures particles and allows vaporized material to pass through. Capture of vaporized materials being in the form of a gas requires more than particle capture.

In the present application, at page 3, line 12 to line 16, the absorption of vapors in an absorbent trap (also referred to here as a sample cartridge) and desorption of vapors from the absorbent trap is discussed. This is very different from solid particle capture taught by Amirav.

For comparison, Amirav at column 4, line 66 to column 5, line 16 discusses his Figure 2 in detail. Amirav discusses how a sample is obtained by desorption with a laser in a laser desorption compartment 12 and the sample swept with carrier gas through the dust and particle heated filter 20 into the heated GC separation or transfer line 22. It is important to note that the sample goes right through the filter. Therefore with regard to claim 6, the filter that is disclosed for use in the method of Amirav cannot be the equivalent of the absorbent trap used in the method of the present application. It therefore appears that the rejection if claim 6 has been traversed and the claim is allowable.

With regard to Claim 7, the Official Action states that Column 4, line 45-47 and column 5, lines 31-36 disclose the placement of the absorbent trap into a thermal absorber and heating the absorbent trap to vaporize the analyte. However, this text does not teach this. Rather the first part discusses the use of the GC transfer line 22 as a short column for fast GC separation since it is heated. The latter part starting at column 5, line 31 discusses laser desorption, which takes place in a laser desorption compartment 12 that is located ahead of the heated filter 20. When sample blasting produces small dust particles these are in turn thermally vaporized in the heated transfer line 22 of gas chromatograph (GC). Since Amirav has not thought the steps

of Claim 6 and Amirav does not disclose the additional steps of claim 7, it appears that this rejection is traversed and the claim 7 is allowable.

With regard to claim 8, since Amirav does not teach the method according to claims 6 or 7, this dependent claim appears allowable.

7. Referring now to claim rejections under 35 USC §103(a) for claims 1, 4 and 5. Applicant has cancelled Claims 1, 4, and 5.

8. Referring now to the claim rejection under 35 USC §103(a) for claim 8.

As discussed previously above Amirav does not teach the methods of claim 6 or claim 7. Neither McKelvy et al. nor Chace alone or in combination overcome the deficiency in the teachings of Amirav in this regard. Therefore the combination of Amirav with McKelvy et al. and/or with Chace fails to provide teaching that makes the claim obvious. Accordingly the rejection appears to be traversed and the claim appears allowable.

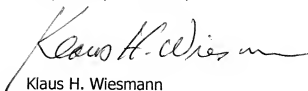
9. Referring now to the objection to claims 2 and 3. The claims have been written in independent form and amended to include all of the limitations of the base claim. Antecedent for the amendments of claims 2 and 3 is found in claim 1.

10. Also enclosed herewith is a petition for extension of time of three months.

Applicant's undersigned attorney has made a good faith effort to meet the concerns expressed by the Examiner. In view of the above amendments and remarks it appears the application meets the conditions for allowance and favorable action thereon is requested. If the Examiner still has some issues with the

application, and has any suggestions as to how to address them, the Examiner is invited to call the Applicant's undersigned attorney at the phone number given below, so that those issues can be worked out.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Klaus H. Wiesmann", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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SECOND COLLEGE EDITION

WEBSTER'S
NEW WORLD
DICTIONARY

OF THE AMERICAN LANGUAGE

1984

DAVID B. GURALNIK, *Editor in Chief*

SIMON AND SCHUSTER

FILIP-PINE (fil'pā pēn') *adj.* same as **PHILIPPINE**
FILIP-PO (fil'pā pō) *n.* [Sp.] 1. *pl.* **-POES** a native or citizen of the Philippines 2. *pl.* **-POES** **PHILIPPO** *adj.* Philippine
fill (fil) *vt.* [ME. *filien*, *fulien* < OE. *fyljan* < base of *full*, *FULL*] 1. *a* to supply (a place) with 2. *b* to put a considerable quantity of something into (to fill the tub for a bath, to fill one's life with joy) 2. *a* to take up or occupy all or nearly all the capacity, area, or extent of (the crowd filled the room) *b* to spread or be diffused throughout 3. *a* to occupy (an office, position, etc.) *b* to put a person into (an office, position, etc.) 4. to fulfill (an engagement to perform, speak, etc.) 5. *a* to supply (the need) needed or called for in (an order, prescription, etc.) *b* to satisfy (a need, requirement, etc.) 6. *a* to close or plug (holes, cracks, etc.) *b* to insert a filling in (a tooth) 7. to satisfy the hunger or desire of (the child) 8. to raise the level of (the land) by adding earth, gravel, etc. 9. *Naut.* *a* to swell (a sail) *b* to trim (a sail) so as to catch the wind on the after side 10. *Poker* to draw the card or cards needed to complete (a straight, flush, full house) —*at* 1. to become full —*n.* 1. all that is needed to make full 2. all that is needed to satisfy (to eat or drink one's fill) 3. anything that fills or is used to fill; esp., earth, gravel, etc., used for filling a hole or depression 4. a piece of land artificially raised to a required level, as a railroad embankment —*fill away* *Naut.* to move along with the wind; said of a ship —*fill in* 1. to fill with some substance 2. to make complete by inserting something 3. to insert 4. to supply or supply for completion 4. to be a substitute —*fill one in* on [Colloq.] to provide one with additional facts, details, etc. about —*fill out* 1. to make or become larger, rounder, shapelier, etc. 2. to make (a document, etc.) complete by inserting or supplying information —*fill up* to make or become completely full
fillet (fil'et) *n.* [Fr. < L. *filia*; see **FILIAL**] 1. a daughter 2. a girl; maid 3. a piece of meat
fillette de joie (da zhwi'et) [Fr., lit., daughter of joy] a prostitute
filled gold brass or other base metal covered with a layer of gold
filled milk skimmed milk with vegetable oils added to increase the fat content
fill-er (fil'er) *n.* a person or thing that fills; specif.: *a* matter added to some other to increase bulk, improve consistency, etc. *b* a preparation used to fill in the cracks, grain, etc. of wood before painting or varnishing *c* the tobacco rolled in the leaf of a cigar *d* a short, space-filling item in a newspaper *e* a device that is inserted into a loose-leaf notebook, etc. *f* *Archit.* a small joint resting on a girder
fil-er (fil'er) *n.* *pl.* **-iers** [Hung.] a Hungarian monetary unit equal to 1/100 of a forint
fil-let (fil'et; *dim.* of *fil*; see **FIL**) 1. a narrow band worn around the head as to hold the hair in place 2. a thin strip of band 3. *same as* **FIL** 4. a flat, square, or rectangular molding separating other moldings 5. a narrow band between two flutings in a column 6. *Bookbinding* an ornamental line impressed on a book cover 7. *Cooking* a boneless, lean piece of meat or fish 8. *Traveling* a horizontal band on a shield, just below the chief and one-fourth its width —*ut* 1. to bind or decorate with a band, molding, etc. 2. to bone and slice (meat or fish)
fill-in (fil'in) *n.* 1. a person or thing that fills a vacancy or gap, often temporarily 2. [Colloq.] a brief summary of the pertinent facts —*adj.* of or by a fill-in
-ing (fil'in) *n.* 1. the act of one that fills 2. a thing used to fill something else 3. a thing which is being specified *a* the metal, plastic, etc. inserted by a dentist into a prepared cavity in a tooth *b* the foodstuff used between the slices of a sandwich, in a pastry shell, etc. 3. the horizontal threads, or *fill*, of a fabric
filling station *same as* **SERVICE STATION** (sense 2)
fill-rip (fil'rip) *n.* [echoic extension of **FILIP** (cf. **CHIRUP**, **CHIRP**)] 1. the snap made by a finger whistling down toward the palm by the thumb and then suddenly released 2. a light blow or tap given to the hand 3. *Archit.* *a* a flat, square way 3. anything that stimulates or livens up; piquant element —*ut* 1. to strike, impel, or snap (the hand) 2. to stimulate or liven up —*vi.* to make a fillip
fil-ly (fil'ly) *adj.* *same as* **PHILOPHENA**
fil-ter (fil'ter) *n.* 1. a glass for putting grooves 2. a groove, as for receiving a glass in a window frame
Fill-more (fil'mor) *adj.* **MILLARD** (mil'ard) 1800-74; 13th president of the U.S. (1885-93)
fil-ly (fil'ly) *n.* *pl.* **-lies** *fil-ly* < ON. *fyli*, fem. of *foyl*, FOAL] 1. a young female fish, specif. one under five years of age 2. [Colloq.] a vivacious young woman or girl
film (film) *n.* [ME. < OE. *film*, membrane, foreskin; for IE. base see **FELT**] 1. a fine, thin skin, surface, layer, or coating 2. a sheet or roll of a flexible cellulose material

covered with a substance sensitive to light and used in taking photographs or making motion pictures 3. a thin veil, haze, or blur 4. an opacity, the corner 5. a motion picture 6. *a* a fine filament *b* a gauzy web of filaments —*ut* 1. to cover with or as with a film 2. to take a photograph 3. to make a motion picture (of a novel, play, etc.) —*vi.* 1. to become covered with a film 2. *a* to make a motion picture *b* to be filmed or suitable for filming (this novel won't film well) —*film'er* *n.*
film-er (fil'mer) *adj.* of or used to do with motion pictures or the art of making them
film noir (nwa'r) [Fr., lit., black film] a type of motion picture, esp. of the 1940s and 50s, fatalistic, pessimistic, cynical in mood and often dealing melodramatically with urban crime and corruption
film paper several sheets of photographic film in a frame that fits in the back of a camera
film strip (fil'm strip) *n.* a length of film containing still photographs, charts, etc., arranged in sequence for projection separately and used as a teaching aid
film-y (fil'mē) *adj.* **film-y** *adj.* **film-y** *adj.* 1. of or like a film; hazy, gauzy, etc. 2. covered with or as with a film; blurred —*film-y* *adv.* —*film-y* *ness* *n.*
fil-po-di-um (fil'pōdē-um, fil'pō-) *n.* *pl.* **-di-a** (-a) [ModL. < L. *filum*, thread (see **FIL**) + *-podium*] a thin, narrow pseudopodium consisting primarily of ectoplasma
fil-ose (fil'ōs) *adj.* < L. *filum* (see **FIL**) + *-osus* 1. threadlike 2. having a threadlike projection
fil-ter (fil'ter) *n.* [Fr. < L. *filtrus*; see **FILIAL**] a son or a youth: *see* **USE** [Fr. < *Damas* 1484]
fil-ter (fil'ter) *n.* *pl.* **-ters** [Ar., earlier *filas* < LGr. *pholis*, a small coin, 1/288 of a solidus] a unit of money in Iraq, Jordan, Bahrain, Kuwait, and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, equal to 1/1000 of a dinar, and in the United Arab Emirates, equal to 1/100 of a dirham
fil-ter (fil'ter) *n.* [ME. *filtrer* < OFr. < ML. *filtrum*, *filtrum*, filtered, felled wood for straining liquids] < *Omne*: see **FELT** 1. a device for separating solid particles, impurities, etc., from a liquid or gas by passing it through a porous substance 2. any porous substance used or suitable for this, as sand, charcoal, felt, etc. 3. *Physics* *a* a device or substance that passes electric currents and blocks other frequencies or frequency ranges while preventing the passage of others *b* a device or substance that partially or completely absorbs certain light rays (a color filter for a camera) 4. *same as* **FILTR** 5. *same as* **FILTR** 6. *same as* **FILTR** 7. to remove or separate (solid particles, impurities, etc.) from a liquid or gas by means of a filter (often with *out*) 3. to act as a filter for —*vi.* 1. to pass through a filter 2. to be filtered into or pass through a filter —*filter-a-ble* (fil'tra b'l., -trā b'l.) *adj.* that can be filtered —*filter-a-ble-ly* *adv.*
filterable virus any virus: so called because most viruses are capable of passing through fine filters that bacteria cannot pass through
filter bed a tank, covered trench, etc., with a sand or gravel bottom, used to filter water, sewage, etc.
filter paper porous paper for filtering liquids
filter tip 1. a cigarette tip containing cellulose, cotton, charcoal, etc. and serving as a mouthpiece through which the smoke is filtered 2. a cigarette having such a tip —*filter-tip*, *filter-tipped* *adj.*
filth (filth) *n.* [ME. < OE. *fylthe* < base of *ful* (see **FOUL**) + *-th*, nominal suffix] 1. disgustingly offensive dirt, garbage, etc. 2. anything viewed as grossly indecent or obscene 3. gross moral corruption
filth-y (fil'thē) *adj.* **filth-y** *adj.* **filth-y** *adj.* 1. full of filth; disgustingly foul 2. grossly obscene 3. morally vicious or corrupt —*SYN.* see **DIRTY** —*filth-y* *adv.* *adv.*
fil-tra-ble (fil'tra b'l.) *adj.* *same as* **FILTERABLE** —*fil'tra-ble-ly* *adv.*
fil-trate (fil'trāt) *vt.* **fil-trate** *vt.* **fil-trate** [*<* ML. *filtratus*, *pp.* of *filtrare* < *filtrum*, *FILTER*] to filter —*n.* a filtered liquid —*fil'tra-tion* *n.*
fil-um (fil'um) *n.* *pl.* **-ia** (-ia) [L. a thread; see **FIL**] *Anal.* any threadlike part; filament
fin (fin) (fin'brēt) *n.* *pl.* **-brē** (-brē) [ModL. < L. *fringe*] Biol. a fringe of hairs, fibers, etc. or a fringed process, esp. at the opening of an ovicell in mammals
fin-briate (fin'brī-āt) *adj.* *pl.* **-brī-ates** [L. *finbrīatus*, fringed; see **FIN**] having a fringe of hairs, fibers, etc.
fin (fin) *n.* [ME. < OE. *finn*, akin to *Du.* *vin*, G. *finne* < IE. **spina*, point < base (*spēi*), pointed stick, whence *SPRIG*, *SPRIG*] 1. any of several winglike, membranous organs on a fish, body of a fish, used in swimming, turning, and balancing 2. anything like a fin in shape or use; specif.: *a* any narrow edge or ridge formed in manufacturing, as on a casting by metal forced through the halves of the mold *b* any fixed or movable airfoil whose chief function is to give stability to an aircraft, as a stabilizing or steering projection on boats or submarines *c* a stabilizing projection on a racer car *d* [Slang] a hand or arm —*ut* *finned*, *finning* to cut: the fins from (a fish) —*fin* to the fins, esp. in a swimming pool
fin (fin) *n.* [C. *fin*, *fin* < MHG. *finf* < OHG. *fimf*, five] [Slang] a five-dollar bill
fin (fin) *n.* [Fr.] the end; finish; conclusion
Fin. 1. Finland 2. Finnish

FILLIP